

# The Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2005

### **Opening**

A meeting of the Utah Upland Game Advisory Committee was held on this date.

#### **Present:**

Ballantyne, Todd  
Blanchard, Richard  
Gaskill, Jim (Chair)  
Gaskill, Newt  
McGee, Brayden  
Mitchell, Dean (DWR Upland Game Program Coordinator)  
Perkins, Ernie  
Potts, Dan  
Proctor, Travis  
Sorensen, Ryan (Secretary)  
Staley, John

### **Old Business**

#### **Chukar/Guzzler study funding**

Randy Larsen has submitted a proposal to the DWR for funds to continue the ongoing chukar guzzler study. The proposal will be reviewed and presented to other western states for support. The following organizations have pledged verbal or monetary support:

Salt Lake Pheasants Forever  
Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife  
US Forest Service  
Utah Chukar and Wildlife Foundation

#### **Species management plan for pheasants – status**

Dean Mitchell has given a large amount of data and information on Utah pheasants to the Great Salt Lake Pheasants Forever chapter. It is currently being processed and organized in the management plan.

#### **Walk-in access report**

The initial coordinator for the walk-in access program resigned. This position has been filled temporarily by an existing DWR staff person. The new coordinator is currently developing and administrative rule and developing atlas and marketing materials. The committee has suggested a walk-in access program for the Box Elder sharptail grouse hunt.

#### **Youth Chukar Hunt**

The committee has proposed to ask the DWR to consider a youth chukar hunt with the following guidelines:  
Authorize a one-day youth chukar hunt and require a closure(s) in a particular area(s).  
Organize the event similar to the youth pheasant hunt.

## **New Business**

### **Upland survey report**

The DWR and USU are in the process of developing and administering an upland hunter opinion survey. The first draft contained 18 pages of questions. This has been reviewed by the DWR and comments have been sent to USU. The DWR is currently waiting for a second draft.

### **Upland/DWR legislation**

The committee was presented with a list of current legislation which could affect wildlife and recreational opportunities. The committee specifically discussed HB-242 Criminal Penalty for Animal Cruelty. This bill would affect the use of birds in dog and falcon training. Since the upland advisory committee meeting, efforts were made to have the wording in the bill amended. It now contains the following exclusion: "animals kept or owned for the purpose of hunting dog or falcon training and cared for in accordance with accepted husbandry practices".

## **Upland Game on the Internet**

You can get more Utah upland game information at <http://www.wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame/> including the past minutes for this committee, news, proclamations, and information about upcoming public meetings.

## **Agenda for Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M. at the DWR State Office at 1594 West North Temple, Salt Lake City. Future meetings will be held the second Tuesday of each month unless otherwise agreed upon.

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings; it's an opportunity for you to get any issues you know about onto the table.

Let us know of donations, projects, etc., made by your group – we want to publicize good activities!

If you know of other interested parties who should get copies of the minutes, and who are involved in upland game organizations or programs, please get us their name. If you want to make an electronic mail input, please send it to one of the following:

Dean Mitchell [deanmitchell@utah.gov](mailto:deanmitchell@utah.gov)  
Jim Gaskill [jhgaskill@weber.edu](mailto:jhgaskill@weber.edu)

Ryan Sorensen [ryan@mybirddog.com](mailto:ryan@mybirddog.com)

Respectfully submitted ...

Ryan Sorensen